## **United States Mission to the OSCE**



## Question Regarding the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Statement of January 31

As delivered by Ambassador Julie Finley to the Permanent Council, Vienna February 01, 2007

Mr. Chairman,

The United States noted with concern that the Russian Foreign Ministry yesterday posted on its website a statement about receiving the "Minister of Foreign Affairs of Transnistria," Mr. Litskai.

We trust that, despite what it appears to be, the Russian Federation has not abandoned its previous position of support for Moldova's independence and territorial integrity.

Presuming that is the case, perhaps the Russian delegation here could explain to us: why does the Russian Federation, in its official declarations, refer to Mr. Litskai as "Foreign Minister?"

Thank you.